

# LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 8, 2018

Members present: Fournier, McManus, Niederkorn, Radloff, Ross, Rund, Tetrick, Trisko and Halgren (staff)

Absent: Hoehn (excused)

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

## Consent Agenda

- Minutes – M/S/A
- Bills – M/S/A

## Unfinished Business

### **Repair and Maintenance**

- A new door closer for the men's bathroom door and new toilet seats for both downstairs bathrooms have been purchased and will be installed in October.

## New Business

### **Circulation Stats**

- Down 10.42% for September

### **Summer Discovery Wrap-Up 2018**

- This year the libraries in Dakota County kicked off a new summer learning program called Summer Discovery which our Youth Services Librarian, Amy Commers, helped brand. While reading was emphasized, other activities were also encouraged for children to combat the summer slide.
- South St. Paul Public Library registered 66 pre-readers, 159 readers, and 51 teens in the program for a total of 276 participants. Commers either presented or arranged 63 programs with a total attendance of 1007.
- Prizes included books, Cascade Bay tickets, Minnesota Twins tickets, and the ever-popular Minnesota State Fair tickets.
- At our summer wrap-up party on August 8 at Lawshe Memorial Museum, Cap'n Curley entertained the kids with his Treasure Beyond Measure program, and Level Up Games once again donated two bikes as prizes to two lucky winners. Another new grand prize was a donation of a one-year household membership to Sea Life Aquarium at Mall of America.
- The online version of the program, ReadSquared, was also piloted this year, and 19 youth participated in this manner. Of course, construction which began just as Summer Discovery began, greatly affected participation with such limited access to the library.
- Radloff expressed interest in promoting statistical information via the website and Facebook so people realize how the library impacts children of the area.

### **Federal Library Services and Technology (LSTA) Grant**

- Commers applied for an LSTA grant and received notice that the library was awarded a grant in the amount of \$7,667 for "Promoting Summer Learning Access through Portable Library Project."
- Through this Portable Library Project (PLP), the library will purchase books and supplemental learning tools (such as flashcards, manipulatives, and games) that will comprise a collection of fine- and fee-free items circulated on an honor system.
- Utilizing our community partner, the South St. Paul Mayor's Task Force, we will take these items to key sites within the city that include areas with high numbers of Housing Choice Voucher recipients. During each site visit, volunteers will offer educational programming under the direction of Commers, targeting Pre-K through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade youth. In this way, we will expand access to our summer reading and literacy

activities and will increase participation in summer reading activities in populations that have traditionally been underserved by libraries and are at high risk for summer learning loss and for not being kindergarten ready.

### **Early Literacy Items with MELSA Funds**

- Dakota County Library included South St. Paul in utilizing MELSA funds to update items in the children's play area. We were given \$220 to order such things as nest and stack cubes, classic wooden puzzles, doll clothes, play "community" vehicles, rattles, shatterproof mirrors, a forest friends playset, activity scarves and wrist and ankle bells. Commers also augmented this purchase with a \$75 Amazon gift card that she received from the Oliver Wyman Research Team for completing a survey.

### **SSP Library 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Staff Day**

- Our second staff day will be October 19. Our day will feature thumb balls as an ice breaker as well as a diversity session; coffee and donuts with a cop where Commander Brian Wicke will address some staff concerns regarding safety, responsibilities, etc.; meditation with Arvind Naik; lunch from The Coop; a cookie exchange and baby picture contest; and a microaggression/diversity/inclusion session with Ray Lockman, a patron experience supervisor from Hennepin County Library.

### **Current Programming**

- Adult Programs
  - Our Wednesday Healthy Cooking sessions have had a devoted and enthusiastic following.
  - Inside the Criminal Mind with Daniel Craft (10/4) was a huge draw with 53 attendees.
  - *Upcoming*: Dakota County Paranormal Society (10/22); Sip & Spell Adults Only Team Spelling Bee (10/25); Georgia O'Keeffe Discovery (11/1); Indoor Micro Drone Racing (11/3); Author Carolyn Porter (11/8); Armistice Book Discussion through DCHS grant (11/15).
- Children's Programs
  - Color My World with the Story Man from England (9/18) attracted 56 active participants
  - Lincoln 1<sup>st</sup> Grade visits (9/28) brought 140 children to the library
  - Slime Saturday (9/29) engaged 8 attendees.
  - Rock, Rattle, and Rhyme Storytimes are going strong with an average of 20 participants
  - *Upcoming*: Write On! (10/10); CDs are Tops with ArtStart (10/17); Creative City Building with Eagan Art House (10/18); Stories at Lawshe Memorial Museum (10/23); Owls with Dakota County Parks (10/25).
- Book Sale – Annual Fall Book Sale – October 15-20

### **Other/Correspondence**

- The City Engineer has accepted a job offer with the City of Woodbury and will start his new job the end of October.
- The board discussed whether to cover or not cover Lucy.
- Thank-you card received for being in the Night to Unite event in August.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Next meeting – November 19, 2018

Respectfully submitted,  
Megan Fournier  
Secretary